

INFORMATION PAPER

DAMO-SSF
5 November 2001

SUBJECT: FAO In-Country Training Program -Turkey

1. Purpose. To provide a summary of the FAO in-country training program and facilities available in Turkey to assist in selection and preparation of replacement personnel. Projected in-country trainees should use the information provided to contact incumbent trainees and/or FAO supervisor as early as possible for more detailed information.

2. Facts.

a. Summary of Program:

(1) Tour Length -12 months

(2) Normal Arrival/Departure Dates - Report: NET 15 Jul, NLT 1 Aug; Depart: Aug of the following year.

(3) Program Description – Up to two Turkish-speaking FAOs conduct ICT a year. FAOs are based at Istanbul where they attend the 10-month Turkish Army War Academy General Staff Course (Turk Kara Harp Akademisinin Genel Kurmay Kursu). A two-week preparatory course runs from mid to the end September. The academy course begins the first week of October and graduates the last week of July the following year. For the Turks it is a two-year course. The Academy is located in Yenilevent, Istanbul. FAOs conduct regional travel as school permits. Since FAOs do not have much time to travel once the course begins, they should begin traveling shortly after arrival. Incoming FAOs should contact outgoing FAOs as soon as possible (minimum of three months prior to arrival) to begin coordinating these initial trips. FAOs fall under the consulate in Istanbul due to location, but are under the supervision of the USDAO at the embassy in Ankara.

(4) Prerequisites - CPT/MAJ; branch immaterial; Turkish 2/2/2 or higher language proficiency.

(5) Language Instruction Availability: Language instruction is conducted every Monday at 1615 during the academic year. Some Turkish wives conduct informal language classes at the school while the school itself provides language instruction for spouses and children on Thursdays from 1315 - 1515.

b. Transportation: Each FAO is authorized to ship one POV. This should be done early since shipping time takes about 3 months. Public transportation is more than adequate. Many U.S. personnel prefer to purchase used vehicles on the economy. Check with sponsor before shipping POV. Unleaded gas is readily available. USAA does insure vehicles in Turkey. There are two FAO vehicles on site for use during regional travel. These vehicles are Government property and for official use only. They are *not* a substitute for personal transportation.

c. Household Goods. ICT FAOs in Turkey are authorized partial JFTR. FAOs should bring only personal items, clothes, decorative items, and entertainment items such as computers, stereos and televisions. The incoming FAOs should coordinate with resident FAOs for recommended items to bring as accompanied and unaccompanied baggage.

d. Housing:

(1) FAOs are housed in Turkish officer quarters, located on the Academy grounds. Each apartment (approx 990 sq ft) has 2 bedrooms, 1 office/den, 3/4 bath, great room (dining/living room) and a kitchen. The apartments are fully furnished with U.S. government-owned furniture (Turkish made) and major appliances (washer, dryer, refrigerator, and stove).

(2) Although these quarters are provided by agreement with the Turkish military, they are not government quarters and FAO trainees are entitled to BAQ and COLA. The FAO trainee pays rent and all utilities.

e. Support Facilities:

(1) Medical - Limited services available at the Amiral Bristol Hastahanesi (Admiral Bristol Hospital) in Istanbul, using TRICARE remote. Very limited treatment is available from the dispensary at the American Consulate or at the Academy. Major medical problems will be treated in Landstuhl, Germany.

(2) Dependent Schooling - Grades K-9 at the International Community School in Hanimkoy or the British International School (three locations), both English-speaking, non-DOD but accredited. Students must be enrolled NLT 1 Apr. Grades 10-12 generally attend the DODDS boarding schools in Europe. The Government pays school costs.

(3) PX/Commissary - A small Turkish convenience store (Ordu Pazarı) is located adjacent to the quarters on the Academy grounds. U.S. facilities are located in Izmir and Incirlik, and smaller ones in Ankara.

(4) Other – In addition to the convenience store, the Academy has a barbershop, dry cleaners and a bank within walking distance of the officer quarters. The American Consulate in Istanbul, a 30-minute drive from the Academy, has all administrative services, a garage, fuel pump, and mail services.

f. Rater/Senior Rater:

A/ARMA-Rater
ARMA-Senior Rater

g. Incumbent FAO/Departure Date:

MAJ Michael C. Allison	0108-0207
MAJ Mark A. Faber	0109-0207
CPT Karl Schneider	0207-0307
CPT William Schaum	0207-0307

h. Address:

(1) Mail: USDAO Ankara, American Embassy, PSC 33 Box 5000
APO AE 09823
Or AMCON-FAO Istanbul, PSC 97 Box 002, APO AE 09827
Or Harp Akademileri Lojmani, E/3-6 (or E/3-1),
Yenilevent, Istanbul, Turkey

(2) Message: USDAO ANKARA TU
Or AMCONSUL ISTANBUL TU//FAO//

i. Phone #:

DAO: 011-90-312-455-5555 x2300
FAX: 011-90-312-467-4468
FAO: (E3/6) 011-90-212-280-9755 (fax capable)
011-90-533-437-3273 (Cellular)
FAO: (E3/1) 011-90-212-282-6660
011-90-532-520-5419 (Cellular)

3. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

a. Entry requirements (NOTE: *This information is subject to change. Recommend incoming FAOs check DoD 4500.54G, Foreign Area Clearance Guide and w/sponsor NLT 90 days before PCS*). FAOs require Diplomatic passports. Family members require Official (maroon) passports. Visas are required for all FAOs and family members. Health/ immunization requirements: none, but FAOs ensure their

vaccinations current for regional travel before arrival in country. FAOs will normally attend INTAC prior to arrival on station.

b. Bring materials from OAC/CAS3/CGSC, dictionaries and history books. Also, whatever other professional manuals you may have. Be prepared to be asked how we do things in the American Army. Also bring Turkish language materials.

c. Civilian clothing is standard attire for embassy visits. FAOs will not be authorized a Civilian Clothing Allowance. Bring full complement of military uniforms, to include Class As and dress blues.

e. Regional travel priorities for ICT in Turkey are:
Priority 1 – Turkey, Greece, Cyprus, Bulgaria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Syria, Caucasus States.
Priority 2 – Gulf States, Iran*, Iraq* Lebanon
Priority 3 - The Maghreb; Yemen.

* Current travel restrictions apply.

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